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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 420
By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to honor Dorothy Shell for laudable service to the people of Tennessee and for being named the new Commissioner of the Department of Personnel.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dorothy Shell is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity in all her chosen endeavors, and who was duly appointed as the Commissioner of the Department of Personnel for the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Shell has served with distinction in numerous state government positions over the past 28 years; she began her illustrious career in 1972 as a Clerk 1 in the Department of Personnel's Technical Services Division; she was also a Personnel Analyst with the Department of Education, and Assistant Chief of Personnel with the Department of Safety; and

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WHEREAS, she then served as the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Personnel for three years; and

WHEREAS, in her new capacity as Commissioner, she is responsible for managing 36,000 state and government employees, and oversees the affairs and matters of the largest employer in the state; and

WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary tenure in state government, Commissioner Shell has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, she has served on several community committees and organizations including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the YWCA Board of Directors, the United Way allocations committee, and numerous others; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Shell is a long-time member of the Women's Issues Task Force of the Annual Legislative Retreat; she is an outstanding model for women in her field; and

WHEREAS, she is a devout and valued member of the Kaye Avenue Baptist Church; and is most proud of her laudable service to the church where she serves on the Trustee Board and on many other committees; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Shell is deeply devoted to her family; she is the proud parent of one daughter, Vanessa Shell Thomas, and adoring grandmother of Chelsea and Natalie Thomas; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Dorothy Shell epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Commissioner Dorothy Shell for her dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Commissioner Dorothy Shell for her outstanding service to the state of Tennessee and congratulate her on the occasion of her appointment as Commissioner of the Department of Personnel. We extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.